

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00879 131258Z

46

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 PC-10 AID-20 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-11 RSC-01 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 SAM-01

OMB-01 OIC-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DRC-01 /163 W

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TAGS: AORG UNDP EAID US

SUBJECT: ISVS/UNV MERGER

REFS (A) GENEVA 0819; (B) GENEVA 0853; (C) STATE 25089

1. SUMMARY: A LONG BRUISING FIRST MEETING OF ISVS WORKING GROUP (WG) TO STUDY ISVS/UNV MERGER WAS HELD FEB 12 AT ISVS HEADQUARTERS. FROM VIEWPOINT US, MEETING WAS SUCCESSFUL IN THAT IT RESULTED IN MOVING DE FACTO CHAIRMANSHIP OF WG OUT OF DELAYING HANDS OF ISVS SYG ZOLLNER AND INTO THOSE OF ELECTED CHAIRMAN OLIVIERI WHILE AT SAME TIME FORCING ZOLLNER TO ACCEDE TO TIMETABLE PROPOSED BY US AND ESTABLISHED BY WG ITSELF. MOST MEMBERS OF WG OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH OUTCOME. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETING OPENED BY ZOLLNER IN CHAIR WITH EXPLANATION ITS PURPOSE WAS SIMPLY TO INFORM WG MEMBERS OF ZOLLNER'S TRIP TO US AND STATUS OF ISVS SECRETARIAT'S EFFORTS TO PRODUCE DOCUMENTATION FOR WG CONSIDERATION. ZOLLNER THEN LAUNCHED INTO LONG ACCOUNT OF UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION AND HIS CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON. HE ALSO REFERRED TO APPARENT "COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEM" BETWEEN HIMSELF, DEPTOFFS AND MISOFF RESPONSIBLE FOR ISVS AFFAIRS IN EXPLAINING HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT US HAD AGREED TO CANCELLATION OF FEB 12 WG MEET-
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00879 131258Z

ING (SEE REFTEL A), WHICH US REP HAD TO CLARIFY TO SET RECORD

STRAIGHT.

3. ZOLLNER REPEATED FAMILIAR STORY OF DIFFICULTIES IN PRODUCING DOCUMENTATION FOR WG PRIOR TO SECOND HALF OF MARCH AND AGAIN SAID IN ANY CASE DOCUMENTS WERE BEING PRODUCED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE SINCE THEY NOT STRICTLY NEEDED BY WG BEFORE JUNE IN ORDER MEET TIME-TABLE SET BY ISVS COUNCIL LAST OCTOBER. DURING HIS LENGTHY DISSERTATION, ZOLLNER FREQUENTLY INTERRUPTED BY DUTCH, GERMAN FRENCH AND OTHER REPS WITH QUESTIONS. GERMAN REP FORCED ZOLLNER ADMIT HE HAD DISPATCHED NOTICES OF WG MEETINGS WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION OR KNOWLEDGE OF WG CHAIRMAN. DUTCH REP FORCED ZOLLNER ADMIT INCONSISTENCIES IN HIS STORIES OF WHEN DOCUMENTATION WOULD BE READY. FRENCH REP INSISTED ON RAISING SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION WHILE ZOLLNER CONTINUED MONOLOGUE.

4. IN ORDER SAVE MEETING FROM BEING SIMPLE TAKFEST, US REP PROPOSED THAT "INFORMATIVE MEETING" CALLED BY ZOLLNER BE CONSIDERED CLOSED AND FIRST FORMAL MEETING OF WG B CONSIDERED OPEN, WITH OLIVIERI PRESIDING. DUTCH REP STRONGLY SUPPORTED US PROPOSAL AND IT ADOPTED EVEN THOUGH ZOLLNER PROTESTED SUCH MEETING NOT AUTHORIZED SINCE HIS NOTE TO WG MEMBERS HAD SAID MEETING WAS MERELY INFORMATIVE AND THUS NO RPT NO DECISIONS COULD BE TAKEN.

5. WITH OLIVIERI THEN IN CHAIR, MEETING PROCEEDED TO REACH FOLLOWING DECISIONS, AFTER FORCING RELUCTANT COOPERATION FROM ZOLLNER:

A. INFORMAL ENGLISH VERSION OF DOCUMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS IN FIRST FEW DAYS OF MARCH.

B. WG WILL MEET MARCH 11 TO RECEIVE FORMAL VERSIONS OF DOCUMENTS IN ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH AND TO HEAR ZOLLNER'S EXPLANATIONS OF CONTENTS.

C. WG WILL MEET AGAIN MARCH 18, 19, AND POSSIBLY 20 TO BEGIN FORMAL EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS AND DELIBERATIONS.

D. OLIVIERI AUTHORIZED TOM MAKE CONTACT WITH UNV AS CHAIRMAN OF WG BEFORE MARCH 11 AND TO INFORM WG OF HIS DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING UNV'S VIEWS RE MERGER.

E. MALAMED OF ISRAEL ELECTED RAPPORTEUR OF WG.
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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00879 131258Z

F. ZOLLNER WILL SIT IN ON WG MEETINGS AS ISVS SECRETARIAT REP.

6. IN COURSE OF MEETING, FRENCH AND SWISS REPS INDICATED THEY EXPECTED REPS FROM PARIS AND BERN, RESPECTIVELY, TO ATTEND MARCH

18-19 MEETINGS, AND US REP INDICATED SIMILAR LIKELIHOOD.

7. US REP INDICATED PRIVATELY TO SYMPATHETIC REPS THAT US ENVISAGED MAY MEETING OF ISVS COUNCIL FOR REASONS OUTLINED IN REFTEL C AND REPEATED THIS DURING MEETING. REACTION FROM OTHER REPS WAS MIXED BUT MOST WERE UNDERSTANDABLY NONCOMMITAL. ZOLLNER SAID IT NOT CLEAR THAT SPECIAL RPT SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL RATHER THAN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING WAS COMPETENT TO CONSIDER WG REPORT IN VIEW OF WORDING OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT OCTOBER MEETING ON SUBJECT. THEETTEN OF ISVS STAFF RAISED QUESTION OF COST OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING. AT ANY RATE. IT AGREED THIS SUBJECT COULD BETTER BE PURSUED AT LATER MEETING.

8. NO RPT NO INDICATION YET RECEIVED THAT ZOLLNER PRESENTLY FLOATING HIS IDEA OF "CENTER" MENTIONED IN REFTEL C.

9. MEETING ATTENDED BY REPS FROM ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, FRG, FRANCE, IRAN, IVORY COAST, NETHERLANDS, PHILIPPINES. SWITZERLAND, AND THAILAND AND U. S.

10. MISSION BELIEVES WG STUDY AT LONG LAST ON THE TRACKS WITH FIRM TARGET DATES AND WITH LEADERSHIP IN PROPER HANDS. IN ORDER TO ATTAIN MAXIMUM BENEFITS FROM MEETINGS WEEK OF MARCH 18, BELIEVE US SHOULD SEND DEPT AND PC DELEGATES, AS INDICATED IN REFTEL C.DALE

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